

Docket No.: R2184.0270/P270
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Yuuji Kitamura

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.:

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: N/A

For: MEDIUM JUDGMENT METHOD,
STORAGE MEDIUM, MEDIUM
JUDGMENT PROGRAM, AND
OPTICAL DISK DRIVE USING THE
MEDIUM JUDGMENT METHOD

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

A summary/abstract translation of the non-English language references is enclosed.

A copy of each reference on PTO/SB/08 is attached.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 04-1073, under Order No. R2184.0270/P270. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: November 13, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
				Filing Date	Concurrently Herewith
				First Named Inventor	Yuuji Kitamura
				Art Unit	N/A
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	R2184.0270/P270

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BA	JP-2000-100068		04-07-2000			
	BB	JP-2002-182770		06-26-2002			
	BC	JP-2000-123479		04-28-2000			
	BD	JP-11-167769		06-22-1999			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application No. 2000-100068 discloses a method in which the contents of software are encrypted using the specific information that is specific to each disk and recorded on the disk, and the encrypted data is recorded on the disk.

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application No. 2002-182770 discloses a method in which, using the information which is given to the authorized disk and which is not rewritable, it is determined whether the information on a disk of interest for medium judgment is in agreement with the information on the authorized disk.

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application No. 2000-123479 discloses a method in which the ID of an optical disk drive of an authorized user is recorded on an optical disk, and the ID read from the optical disk is compared with the ID of a currently used optical disk drive.

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application No. 11-167769 discloses a method in which the disk and the reproduction permission medium (for example, an IC card) are set in the reproducing apparatus, and the reproduction management information of the disk and the reproduction permission information of the IC card are read out, and the checking of these data is performed.

The above are discussed in the introductory part of the specification.